

To: COYLE, BRIDGET[Coyle.Bridget@epa.gov]
From: Ebbert, Laura
Sent: Wed 8/12/2015 12:46:37 AM
Subject: RE: PLEASE REVIEW

Here's my notes (highlighted sections are updated). Pam didn't text Ronnie, we asked Corn to tell folks – we texted.

I realize the below might be just what Jeff wants. In which case, send away! However, it comes off as a laundry list of excuses why we didn't do something, which really we had no power to actually *do*. That might irritate Jared a little. If you were inclined, you might consider just sending something like this (you could include the bullets from below as supplemental info):

Jared: We realize that Navajo Nation EPA may raise the fact that EPA, Region 9 staff and management were at the Navajo Nation-hosted RTOC as the spill was occurring. Unfortunately, Region 8 did not release any information to Region 9 until the late afternoon/evening of Thursday, 8/7, after Region 9 staff had departed for the airport. Had we known about the incident earlier, we would have engaged with the NNEPA immediately. Please let us know how we can support you in your discussions with the Tribe going forward.

LE

Greetings Jared-

At your next opportunity to speak with President Begaye (either onsite later this week or by phone), you may find the following timeline useful; since EPA Region 9 was on site with Navajo Nation staff while the spill was happening:

- Region 8 staff became aware of the issue on Wednesday 8/5, but did not broadcast the alert until the afternoon/evening of Thursday, 8/6.

- On Thursday (8/6) afternoon, a number of Region 9 staff* attended a Navajo Nation EPA-sponsored tour of a green charter school ("Star School") in Flagstaff, Arizona. Dr. Benn and his water team were present on the tour.

- Region 9 staff had to leave before the subsequent waterfalls tour in order to drive back to Phoenix in time to catch our flights. We staff on the tour to alert them about the reason for our departure.

- Because Region 9 staff did not become aware of the Gold King Mine release until Thursday (8/6) evening, we were unable to discuss it with NNEPA staff during the RTOC or subsequent tours.

*Region 9 staff in attendance: Bridget Coyle, Laura Ebbert, Pam Overman, Mariela Lopez, Lilia Dignan

Should you have any questions, please let me know. Thank you.

Bridget Coyle

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